

From the Fathers (and others):

The lover of silence draws close to God. He talks to Him in secret, and God enlightens him. Jesus, by silences, shamed Pilate; and a man, by his silence, conquers vainglory.

St. John Climacus

Neither despair, nor cease from praying, but approach even though you are sinful, so that you may glorify the Master and give Him the opportunity to show His loving-kindness when He forgives your sins. Likewise, if you fear to approach, you have prevented His goodness and impeded His abundant kindness, which indeed belongs to you.

St. Basil the Great

"No one will ever find true happiness and perfect prosperity without God or outside God." –

St Innocent, Enlightener of Alaska

...joy and a settled state of soul show the holiness of Him who is present. Thus, Abraham beholding the Lord rejoiced (Jn. 8:56); so also John at the voice of Mary, the God-bearer, leaped for gladness (Lk. 1:41).

St. Athanasius the Great

As the sharp edge of winter cuts across February with its long shadows and long cold nights, Orthodox Christians know that this time of year is the herald of Great Lent, that solemn but beautiful 40-day journey to the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. With anticipation we look forward to that Lenten journey and what awaits us at the end of our spiritual travels: the Feast of Feasts, that great day of Pascha in which we proclaim, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death."

Archpriest Stephen Rogers

"Give thanks to the Lord, but do not forget His great men, - the poor and the needy, for they can accomplish much with God the Lord."

Abbot Nazarius of the Valaam Monastery

The second request of the very pure soul is to see the coming of the Father's kingdom (cf. Mt. 6:10). What this means first of all is that each day Christ should reign among holy men. And this happens when the devil's power has been driven out of our hearts through the expulsion of sinful foulness and when God has begun to reign within us amid the good odors of virtue. With fornication vanquished, chastity rules; with anger overcome, peace is king; with pride under foot, humility is sovereign.

St. John Cassian

St. John Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



*~ February 25, 2018 ~
Orthodoxy Sunday*

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TN 38107
(901) 274-4119

www.stjohnmemphis.org

www.orthodoxtupelo.com

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS

Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

V. Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers

Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman

Associate Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. John Troy Mashburn, Jr.

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul

Assistant Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. Donald Berge

Attached

GREAT VESPERS

Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

ORTHROS and CHURCH SCHOOL

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

"...the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch!"

Acts 11:26

Orthodoxy Sunday

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40

Gospel: John 1:43-51

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Ben Arthur**.

Welcome to all those visiting St. John Orthodox Church. We are honored by your presence. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church.

If you are from a non-Orthodox background you may see new things such as icons, incense, the sign of the cross, the veneration of saints, and a great deal of standing. These can be perplexing to the uninitiated eye. Rest assured that everything we do has a solid biblical foundation and a long history among Christian people. Please feel free to participate where you feel comfortable, and feel equally as free only to observe when you prefer.

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be – among other things – the paramount expression of Christian unity. While it is our deepest hope that Christendom will one day fulfill Christ's desire for true unity among all those who claim His name (John 17:21), the unfortunate reality of our day is that the various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox faith. *Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma and practice of the Orthodox Church, non-Orthodox guests do not receive Holy Communion.* The Holy Eucharist is reserved for those members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting, and recent confession. All visitors and unprepared Orthodox are invited to partake of the blessed bread as they come forward to venerate the cross at the end of the Liturgy. Thank you for your understanding.

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

February 25 – March 4 (Great Fast)

- Sunday** -Teen Group, following liturgy
- Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Great Compline, 6:00 p.m.
-Bible Study, Book of James, 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Choir rehearsal (men's section only), 6:30 p.m.
-Men's Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Crosstown
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m., Great Lent
- Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Presanctified Liturgy. 6:00 p.m.
-Lenten Meal, following Liturgy, provided by Monica Rustom
- Thursday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.
-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.
-Akathist, 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday** -Ninth Hour & Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.
- Sunday** -Orthros & Church School, 9:00 a.m.
-Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY – Gregory Palamas

Sunday, March 4, 10:00 a.m.

- PRIEST:** Fr. Philip
READER: Matt Spinolo
USHER: Dan O'Brien
HOLY BREAD: Lavi Dumitrache
ALTAR SERVERS: Zach, Mark, Thomas, Alex, volunteer
COFFEE HOUR: Anna Pashchinskaya, Kate Kumar,

Churching

March 4 - Janine & Dorothy Smith

COMMEMORATIONS

February 25: Tarasios, archbishop of Constantinople; Hieromartyrs Reginos, bishop of Skopelos, and Markellos, bishop of Apamea in Syria; Martyr Alexander of Markianopolis.
February 26: Prophyrios, bishop of Gaza; Great-martyr Photeini the Samaritan Woman and those with her; Martyr Theoklitos and those with him; New-martyr John of Constantinople.
February 27: Venerable Prokopios the Confessor of Decapolis; Martyrs Galasios of Heliopolis and Nisios; New-martyr Elias.
February 28: Venerable Basil the Confessor, companion of Prokopios of Decapolis; Hieromartyr Proterios, patriarch of Alexandria; Apostles Nympha and Euvoulos; New-martyr Kyranna. Venerable John Cassian the Roman (in non-leap years).
February 29: Venerable John Cassian the Roman.
March 1: Venerable-martyr Eudokia of Heliopolis; Venerable Domnina of Syria; Martyrs Markellos and Anthony of Pamphylia; Venerable Agapios of Vatopedi monastery on Athos; Venerable David of Wales, bishop of Menevia.
March 2: Theodotos, bishop of Cyrenia; Martyr Hesychios the Senator; Virgin-martyr Euthanlia of Sicily; Arsenios, bishop of Tver.
March 3: Martyrs Eutropios, Kleonikos, and Basilikos of Amasea; Hieromartyr Theodoretos of Antioch.
March 4: Venerable Gerasimos of the Jordan; Gregory, bishop of Constantios in Cyprus; Martyrs Paul and Juliana of Syria; Daniel, prince of Moscow, the wonder-worker.

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| <b>DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS</b> |         |                   | <b>February 25 – March 4</b> |           |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Sunday                          | Hebrews | 11:24-26, 32-12:2 | John                         | 1:43-51   |
| Monday                          | Genesis | 3:21-4:7          | Proverbs                     | 3:34-4:22 |
| Tuesday                         | Genesis | 4:8-15            | Proverbs                     | 5:1-15    |
| Wednesday                       | Genesis | 4:16-26           | Proverbs                     | 5:15-6:3  |
| Thursday                        | Genesis | 28:10-17          | Proverbs                     | 9:1-11    |
| Friday                          | Hebrews | 2:11-18           | Luke                         | 1:24-38   |
| Saturday                        | Hebrews | 2:2-10            | Luke                         | 10:16-21  |
| Sunday                          | Hebrews | 1:10-2:3          | Mark                         | 2:1-12    |

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Pray for our catechumens: Memphis – Kendall Ichniowski, Nelvia Agnew, John Agnew, and Calen and Katherine Verbist.
Please remember in your prayers - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Charles Ingram, Ted Greathouse (Shelley Snowden’s father), Allen Sudduth (Paul’s father), Janet Berry, Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Chelsea Yadron (pregnant), Heather Hetrick (pregnant), Julie Hight (pregnant), Anne Katherine Vanlandingham (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Dot Lawson (Pam Bowick’s mother & Lawson’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Glenda Brooks, Anna Grace (Joyce Grossman’s granddaughter), Maria Bellaflores, Sharon (Larry Ichniowski’s mother), Chris Hodges, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.



Bible Study - For the next three Mondays, there will be a Bible Study on the book of James following Great Compline. Join us for fruitful discussion of the Scriptures!

St. Thekla Choir – The St. Thekla choir will meet for rehearsal with Fr. Alex following liturgy next Sunday, March 4th.

St. John Yearbook – Many memories are made at St. John and we would like to begin commemorating them with an annual yearbook! As 2017 was such a momentous year for our parish, we will begin there. Please share your favorite pictures (2017 or going forward) with us by emailing them to Buddy Bowick. Contact the office if you need his address.

Wednesday Teachings - Since we are entering Lent, we will not have Wednesday night teachings again until after Pascha. We have LOTS of opportunities to pray during Lent. Use this time to pray with your brothers and sisters regularly each week!!

Wednesday Lenten Meals
 If you would like to provide a meal following Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesdays during Lent, please contact Trish in the office or sign up on the website. Available dates: **March 14 & April 5 (Holy Thursday).**

Online Sign Up - Links to all of our sign ups can be found on the St. John website under *Parish-Online Assignments and Sign Ups*: **Coffee Hour, Lenten Meals**

Sons of Thunder Men’s Book Club – We will meet on March 18th in the church library at 6:30 p.m. The meal is potluck. The book is *The Song of the Sirin*. For those who want to read further *The Curse of the Raven* is the second book in the Raven Son trilogy by Nicholas Kotar.

Parish Council Update – Memphis Audio is completing their design and model for the acoustic panels in St. Raphael Hall. We should have the design by next week. Once the design is approved, there is a 4-6 timeframe for the panels to be installed. Thank you for your patience! In addition, two of the 4 units in our new building have been rented and tenants will take occupancy this weekend. May God continue to protect our investment!

Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays	
Sunday, 2/25	Sophie Mansour
Monday, 2/26:	<i>St. Photini: Diana Hildebrand, Janine Smith, Mary Clark</i>
Wednesday, 2/28:	Dn. Sidney, Moriah Crum
Friday, 3/2:	Ava Ortwein, Don Eastman, David Yarbrow
Saturday, 3/3:	Michael Cameron, Pam Bowick, David Rustom

STOCK UP THE FOOD PANTRY FOR GREAT LENT!

Week 1: Feb. 18-24

*Canned meats:
Spam
Vienna Sausages
Canned chicken
Tuna

Week 2: Feb. 25-Mar. 3

Peanut Butter (*creamy*)
Crackers

Week 3: Mar. 4-10

*Canned Goods:
Soup (*Ready to eat*)
Veggies/ beans/fruit
Drinks/drink boxes

Week 4: Mar. 11-17

Dry Items:
individual cereal boxes
oatmeal packets
granola bars or cereal bars
nabs

Week 5: Mar. 18-24

Toiletries:
Toilet Paper
Toothpaste/toothbrush
Shampoo

Weeks 6: Mar. 25-31

*Canned meals:
Chef Boy R Dee
Chili
Mac n Cheese

* Many of the patrons of the food pantry are homeless and have no means by which to open cans and/or cook their food. When possible, please buy items with pop-tops that are ready to eat.

**Please donate baby items to Birthright.

Women of St. John Calendar

March 15 **Women's Teaching** - 10:00 a.m., Sarah Hodges' home

May 7 **AWSJ Book Club** – *Catherine of Sienna* by Sigrid Undset

Thank you from Nelvia Agnew: See the bulletin board downstairs to read the Thank You note from Nelvia to the Women of St. John.

REGULAR ALMS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Birthright ♦ St. John Alms Fund ♦ St. Brigid Food Pantry ♦ St. John Camping Fund ♦
♦ Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Mission Fund ♦ Michael & Abigail Bittle Fund

Library Lines

You know what we do on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, but do you know why? Our tradition dates back to events in the 8th century. Visit St. John Library and read about the Iconoclast controversy. Look for *The First Seven Ecumenical Councils* by Leo Davis (HIS DAV), *Bible and Church History* by Fr. Thomas Hopko (CAT GEN HOP) and *The Church Year* (CAT CAL SCH) in *The Celebration of Faith* series also by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann.

We honor two Samaritan women saints this week, St. Photini (2/26) and St. Eudokia (3/1). St. Photini is a patron of several at St. John as is known to all of us as the woman to whom Christ asked water at Jacob's well. She is commemorated with her two sons, five sisters, St. Sebastian, and Domnina, the daughter of Nero. When St. Photini learned that her sons and Sebastian had been arrested by Nero, she and her sisters journeyed to Rome and lived under the supervision of Domnina who was then converted by them. The emperor subjected Photini, her family and all the converts to cruel torments and then imprisoned them for three years. They were then flayed, one was torn apart and some beheaded. St. Photini was thrown down a well and gave her life to God. Learn more about her in *Christ and His Saints* (HAG - - - REA), *Married Saints of the Church* (HAG - - - MOS), *Saints and Sisterhood* (HAG - - - TOP), and in *Orthodox America*, #162, p. 8.

St. John Cassian has the distinction of being commemorated February 29. His pious parents gave him an excellent classic and spiritual education, and later he was tonsured as a monastic. He spent many years learning from the desert fathers. In his later life, he became a disciple of St. John Chrysostom. He is best known as the author of three great works of the Faith. *Conferences with the Fathers* (PAT JOH) addresses purity, understanding Scripture, the four levels of monasticism, repentance and humility. *The Institutes of Cenobitic Life* (PAT JOH) discusses monastic life in Palestine and Egypt and over-coming the eight deadly sins. *On the Incarnation of the Lord, Against Nestorius* opposes heresy on the person of Christ.

St. Eudokia (3/1) lived in Samaria under the reign of the Roman emperor Trajan. She, like St. Mary of Egypt, lived a life of debauchery. One night she awoke to hear Elder Germanus reading about the Last Judgment. Her heart was struck by her sin and great wealth. She repented and was baptized. She then entered a monastery, and God blessed her with spiritual gifts. When she was accused of taking gold from the city and hiding it at the monastery, the troops sent to recover it were miraculously prevented from entering the buildings. On three occasions, relatives of those persecuting the saint died and were restored to life through her prayers. She lived in the monastery for over fifty years. Then again a new governor instituted persecutions against the Christians; she was beheaded on the first of March. Read more about her in *Saints and Sisterhood* (HAG- - -TOP).